

Coach Haskins arrived at Texas Western College in 1961 and retired in 1999 after 38 seasons with a record of 719 wins and 353 losses. He led our Minors to seven Western Athletic Conference Championships, 14 NCAA Tournament appearances, and seven appearances in the National Invitational tournament. Coach Haskins also served as an assistant coach in the 1972 U.S. Olympic team.

On September 29, 1997, Coach Haskins was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. Ten years later, the entire 1966 Texas Western team joined their coach in this honor, becoming just the sixth team in the history of basketball to do so.

Though known for his ferocity on the court, off the court Coach Haskins was humble, compassionate, and witty. He never relished in celebrity, even after his story and that of the 1966 Texas Western team made it to the big screen in the 2006 Disney production of *Glory Road*.

He touched many lives, and never hesitated to help any person in need. He was known for visiting coffee shops around our town—many of them in poor areas—and would order a single cup of coffee, but leave a \$20 tip. He never once bragged or boasted about what he did for others.

At Coach Haskins' memorial service, the University of Southern California basketball coach, Tim Floyd, a former UTEP assistant coach under Coach Haskins, shared a very moving story that demonstrates the kinds of deeds that Coach Haskins did for people often in need. It is told that one day Coach Haskins was driving to El Paso from Van Horn, Texas—which is approximately 120 miles from El Paso. He was driving, as all of us that knew and loved him, in his signature white pickup truck. While driving, he noticed that a station wagon had broken down and was stranded on the side of the road; it was a single mom with four children.

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Coach Haskins, typically, pulled over, and he asked the mother if she needed help. She told Coach Haskins that she was trying to get to Los Angeles, but her car had broken down. Coach Haskins squeezed all of the four children and the mom inside the cab of his pickup and drove them to El Paso. He put the family up in a hotel, arranged for their car to be towed and repaired, and he gave the mother \$1,000 to help her get to Los Angeles.

Coach Haskins never mentioned this to anyone, including to his wife. It wasn't until the mayor of Van Horn called the coach's office and the now Coach Tim Floyd answered the phone that he found out what had occurred. Coach Floyd never shared this story while Coach Haskins was alive because he knew that Coach Haskins wouldn't want anyone to know about it.

This is but one example of the hundreds of stories that people tell about our legendary coach.

Mr. Speaker, when reflecting on his decision to start five African American players, Coach Haskins simply said, "I just played my five best players."

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. REYES. I ask unanimous consent for an additional minute.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair cannot entertain that request. The gentleman will finish his remarks.

Mr. REYES. I'll file the rest for the RECORD. Thank you.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. HUNTER. A parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is recognized.

Mr. HUNTER. Could I be recognized for 1 minute and then yield it to my friend from Texas?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. HUNTER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would yield to the gentleman.

Mr. REYES. I thank my friend from California.

Coach Haskins never sought or wanted credit for changing college basketball, and he would always say, "I just wanted to win the game."

Like many of history's greatest role models, it was the humility and unassuming personality after achieving unprecedented success that, today, he inspires us all.

He is survived by his lovely wife, Mary, and was the proud father of Brent, David, Steve, and Mark. Although he is no longer with us, we know that his spirit will always live on at UTEP and that his legend and legendary stories will forever remain an important part of our country's history.

God blessed us with Coach Haskins, and now we ask for God's blessing for our coach.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

AWARDING THE MEDAL OF HONOR TO SERGEANT RAFAEL PERALTA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I think it's appropriate that I follow the remarks of my great friend SILVESTRE REYES, who was a great veteran of Vietnam and who was a wonderful leader, I think the best leader in the history of the Border Patrol, and who is a great Member of this body, but he is a gentleman who has been to Iraq many times and to Afghanistan many times.

Mr. Speaker, I take the well to comment on an event that occurred in San Diego, and that is regarding Sergeant Rafael Peralta, who was killed on November 14, 2004 in the now famous battle of Fallujah. He was killed, and absorbed the blast by an enemy grenade when, during house-to-house fighting, he was thrown into a small room while he and three other marines were working their way through this series of fire fights.

According to the eyewitnesses and to the citation that he received, he pulled that grenade to his body and absorbed the full concussion and the full explosive power of that grenade on his own body and, thereby, saved his fellow marines.

Now it has just been announced that he was awarded the Navy Cross, the second highest award for heroism, but not the Medal of Honor.

Mr. Speaker, the last person who did that same act, in fact, who was a marine and who did that incredible act of sacrifice in Anbar province, was Corporal Jason Dunham of Scio, New York. He was given the Medal of Honor—awarded it by President Bush in the White House—for falling on a grenade, for taking the shock and the deadly power of that grenade, thereby saving his colleagues.

That is the standard that we have traditionally placed and the metric that we have traditionally placed on this act of heroism of a soldier or of a marine who falls on a grenade or who pulls a grenade under him when it's in close proximity to his buddies, knowing full well that that grenade will most likely kill him but making that split-second decision to give his life for his colleagues and for his country.

Sergeant Rafael Peralta made that decision.

Mr. Speaker, it appears to me that he should have been awarded the same award that Jason Dunham and many before him have been awarded in Vietnam—the same theater that Mr. REYES fought in—in Korea, in World War II. Where we have recognized that standard of a soldier or of a marine who falls on a grenade or who pulls it to him to save his colleagues, we have traditionally recognized that act of heroism, that act of sacrifice with the Medal of Honor.

So, Mr. Speaker, I intend to ask the President—and I hope a number of other people join me to ask the President—to review this award and to award to Rafael Peralta, posthumously, the same award that we awarded just a few months ago to Corporal Jason Dunham.

FEDERAL FUNDING SHORTFALLS CRIPPLING NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from South Dakota (Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN) is recognized for 5 minutes.